

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 91-488-C - ORDER NO. 92-422  
MAY 29, 1992

IN RE: Request for Extended Area Service                    )  
      (EAS) between the McClellanville/                    ) ORDER DENYING  
      Awendaw and Mt. Pleasant/Charleston,                ) EAS REQUEST  
      South Carolina Telephone Exchanges.                 )

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) by way of a Request filed on behalf of certain McClellanville/Awendaw telephone subscribers requesting toll-free service between the exchanges of McClellanville/Awendaw and Mt. Pleasant/Charleston, South Carolina. The affected telephone utilities are Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company (Southern Bell) and McClellanville Telephone Company, Inc. (McClellanville Telephone). Upon receipt of the subscribers' request, the Commission instructed the Commission Staff to require McClellanville Telephone and Southern Bell to perform community of interest and cost studies.

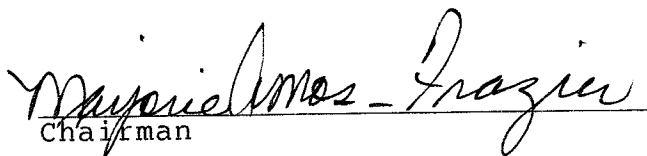
In November 1991, Southern Bell and McClellanville Telephone duly filed their community of interest and cost studies with the Commission concerning this request. The Commission then instructed the Staff to poll the McClellanville Telephone subscribers concerning extended area service between McClellanville/Awendaw and Mt. Pleasant/Charleston.

A total of 1,167 ballots were mailed to the McClellanville Telephone customers. The Commission Staff received responses from 789 subscribers. Of those subscribers responding to the poll, 410 subscribers, or approximately 52%, voted "no" to a proposed monthly adder for non-optional EAS service of \$23.12 per month. 379 subscribers, or 48%, voted "yes" to the proposal.

Based on the results of the poll of the McClellanville Telephone subscribers, it appears to the Commission that a majority of the customers responding to the poll have indicated that they do not wish to pay an additional monthly adder to have EAS between McClellanville/Awendaw and Mt. Pleasant/Charleston. Based on those results, the Commission herein denies the EAS request between McClellanville/Awendaw and Mt. Pleasant/Charleston exchanges. The Commission is aware that a large number of subscribers in the McClellanville and Awendaw exchanges wish to have toll-free service between the areas. The Commission would suggest to those subscribers desiring some reduction in their long distance charges to inquire of their local telephone company as to the availability of the Saver Service tariff that has been approved by the Commission.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director  
(SEAL)